

## COMET CENTRE (K1)

### POLYMER COMPETENCE CENTER LEOBEN GMBH

### RESEARCH PROGRAMME: PCCL-K1 – K1-CENTER IN POLYMER ENGINEERING AND SCIENCE

**Main location:** Leoben (Styria)

**Other locations:** Graz (Styria)

**Thematic area:** Material & Production



#### Thematic focuses

- development of functional and reactive polymers
- polymer processing and surface inspection
- material characterization and fracture mechanics of polymers
- recycling of polymers (Circular Economy)
- lifetime prediction of polymer materials

#### Planned realisation and outcomes

Design and structuring of polymers with shape memory behavior, dynamic surface structures, virtual process optimization by numerical simulation, surface testing and image processing supported by artificial intelligence; models for the simulation of deformation and fracture behavior of polymers and composites; polymers for long-term applications under extreme conditions (e.g. in photovoltaics).

#### History of establishment

2002: Foundation of PCCL as Kplus competence centre

2010-2016: first funding periods

2017-2020: 4th call, 1st funding period as COMET centre (K1)

## COMET FACTSHEET

### Selected company partners (max. 10):

1. AT&S AG
2. Semperit Technische Produkte GmbH
3. SKF Sealing Solutions Austria GmbH
4. Fronius International GmbH
5. Burg Design GmbH
6. Engineering Center Steyr GmbH & Co KG
7. Krenhof AG
8. Julius Blum GmbH

### Selected scientific partners (max. 5):

1. Montanuniversität Leoben
2. Graz University of Technology
3. Technical University of Munich
4. Politecnico di Torino
5. JOANNEUM Research Forschungsgesellschaft mbH

### Selected international<sup>1</sup> partners (max. 5):

1. Hilti AG
2. Oerlikon-Balzers AG
3. Neue Materialien Bayreuth GmbH
4. The European Plastic Pipe and Fittings Association (TEPPFA)

**Duration:** 01.2017 - 12.2024 (8 years)

**Staff employed at the Centre:** 86 FTE, thereof 67 scientists

**Management:** DI Dr. Elisabeth Ladstätter, CEO  
Prof. Dr. Wolfgang Kern, CSO

**Contact:** Polymer Competence Center Leoben GmbH  
Roseggerstraße 12, 8700 Leoben  
+43 3842 429 62-0  
[office@pccl.at](mailto:office@pccl.at)  
[www.pccl.at](http://www.pccl.at)

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<sup>1</sup> Partners with headquarters outside Austria